

More revision -mainly defence

You are East and on lead ; you hold

KJ76
762
J1032
KQ

On the face of it the both the lead of the J Diamonds or K Clubs looks reasonable.
Listen to the auction though before deciding .

| | | | |
|----|---|-----|---|
| N | E | S | W |
| 1S | P | 1NT | P |
| 2H | P | P | P |

Diamonds or Clubs would be ok leads BUT actually the above auction should ring alarm bells for the astute defender. Whenever the dummy passes the second suit their partner has offered it is often (nay , **very** often) the case that dummy is VERY short in partner's first suit. Dummy might well hold something like this :

9
Q87
K9872
J983

And you can almost guess how declarer will play the hand.
They will at their earliest opportunity create a void in the dummy and set about ruffing their losers in the dummy. Now you can hamper declarer efforts somewhat if you start by removing some of dummy's trumps.

Whenever you hear dummy settle for partner's second suit consider leading a trump with a view to reducing dummy's ruffing power.

NB some people say that it is because you hold 4 cards in declarer's *first* suit that should incline you to lead trumps - there is something in that too of course but generally whenever the second suit is passed by dummy , trumps are often a good lead.

Here is the full hand :

| | | |
|-------|--------|--------|
| | 9 | |
| | Q108 | |
| | K9874 | |
| | J983 | |
| KJ76 | | 842 |
| 762 | | A53 |
| J1032 | | A6 |
| KQ | AQ1053 | 107654 |
| | KJ93 | |
| | Q5 | |
| | A2 | |

On a low Hrt lead partner will play their part winning at trick 1 and returning another Hrt. Now declarer has a number of losing options. What happens next is anyone's guess but you have made it impossible for dummy to make many tricks by ruffing.